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NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Advanced Education

26 B.C. ABORIGINAL STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

VICTORIA – The Province has awarded 26 Alberta scholarships worth $2,005 each to Aboriginal students attending British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions, Advanced Education Minister Murray Coell announced today.

"We chose to award these Alberta scholarships to Aboriginal students in B.C. to help them start, stay in and succeed in post-secondary education and training," said Coell. "The recipients of these awards are great role models in their communities and inspire others to pursue their vision of the successful future that education provides."

In celebration of their centennial year, the Alberta government is providing 25 annual scholarship awards to every province and territory in Canada starting this year. It is up to each province and territory to determine its own application process and deadline. The Ministry of Advanced Education added one more scholarship to ensure that students at each of B.C.'s 26 public institutions have equal opportunity to access the awards.

The first awards went to students this month. The winners were chosen by the British Columbia First Nations co-ordinators committee made up of eight members from public post-secondary institutions and a representative from the ministry.

"We are gratified to be part of awarding the scholarships to our students," said Suzanne Bate, chair of the BCFNC. "As frontline service providers, we are committed to supporting and facilitating student success."

Students must be First Nations, Métis, or Inuit to be considered for the scholarship. They must be enrolled in full-time studies at a public post-secondary institution, provide their educational goals and employment aspirations, and show a need for the funds with their application. Students who want to apply next year should contact the First Nations co-ordinator at their institution in December for application details.

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1 backgrounder(s) attached.

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BACKGROUNDER

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2006/07 ALBERTA CENTENNTIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Name	Institution	Program of study
Cynthia Fidler	Camosun College	Nursing
Lara Des Roches	Camosun College	Nursing
Natasha Marshall	Camosun College	First Nations community studies diploma
Sarah Burgess	College of the Rockies	Human service worker diploma
Danielle Cardozo	College of the Rockies	Associate of arts in general studies
Amanda Moulton	College of the Rockies	Kinesiology diploma
Karen Naziel	Northwest Community College	Business technology program on-line
Irene Gonneau	Okanagan College	Bachelor of arts – university transfer
Mona Ingram	Okanagan College	Bachelor of business administration
Catherine Courson	Selkirk College	Associate arts degree in English
Lori Anne Bustin	Vancouver Community College	Dental hygiene diploma
Dillon Panagapko	Vancouver Community College	Dental technology diploma -
Lindsay Katsitsakaste Delaronde	Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design	Bachelor of fine arts – arts in education
Amiel Logan	Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design	Bachelor of design
Jeanette Dillabough	University College of the Fraser Valley	Bachelor of social work
Ian Caplette	Malaspina University-College	Bachelor of arts - First Nations studies
Sheila McKee	Malaspina University-College	Native Indian teacher education program
Adam Cota	University of British Columbia	Island medical program
Kristi Haavisto	University of British Columbia	Native Indian teacher education program
Jocelyn Ferguson	University of British Columbia - Okanagan	Bachelor of arts - interdiscipinary program
Heidi Verburg	Simon Fraser University	Doctorate of education
Stacey Peterson	Thompson Rivers University	Bachelor of arts – tourism management
June Halliday	University of Victoria	Bachelor of fine arts - writing
Christopher Roberts	University of Victoria	Bachelor of arts - economics
Delbert Mills	University of Victoria	Bachelor of social work
Miranda (Randi) Rosso	University of Victoria	Bachelor of arts - child and youth care

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